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# latent

## Dictionary

The American Heritage® dictionary logo, featuring the words "The American Heritage®" in a serif font above the word "dictionary" in a stylized, lowercase font.la·tent (lāt'nt) 

adj.

### Related Topics

- [title](#)

1. Present or potential but not evident or active: *latent talent*.
2. *Pathology*. In a dormant or hidden stage: *a latent infection*.
3. *Biology*. Undeveloped but capable of normal growth under the proper conditions: *a latent bud*.
4. *Psychology*. Present and accessible in the unconscious mind but not consciously expressed.

n.

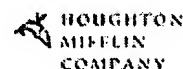
A fingerprint that is not apparent to the eye but can be made sufficiently visible, as by dusting or fuming, for use in identification.

[Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *latēns*, latent-, present participle of *latēre*, to lie hidden.]

latently la'tent·ly adv.

**SYNONYMS** *latent*, *dormant*, *quiescent*. These adjectives mean present or in existence but not active or manifest. What is *latent* is present but not evident: *latent ability*. *Dormant* evokes the idea of sleep: *a dormant volcano*. *Quiescent* sometimes—but not always—suggests temporary inactivity: "For a time, he [the whale] lay *quiescent*" (Herman Melville).

## Thesaurus

The Houghton Mifflin Company logo, featuring a stylized 'H' and the company name in a serif font.

latent

adjective

1. Capable of being but not yet in existence: eventual, possible, potential. See possible/impossible.
2. Existing in a temporarily inactive form or state: abeyant, dormant, inactive, quiescent, sleeping. See action/inaction, show/hide.

## Antonyms

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**Definition:** dormant, hidden

**Antonyms:** active, apparent, clear, live, manifest, obvious, open, public

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## 🔍 Legal Encyclopedia



This entry contains information applicable to United States law only.  
Latent

Hidden; concealed; that which does not appear upon the face of an item.

For example, a latent defect in the title to a parcel of real property is one that is not discoverable by an inspection of the title made with ordinary care. Similarly, a latent defect in an item of merchandise is one that could not have been discovered by any known or customary inspection or test.

## 🔍 Medical



la·tent (lāt'nt)  
adj.

1. Present or potential but not evident or active.
2. In a dormant or hidden stage, as an infection.
3. Undeveloped but capable of normal growth under the proper conditions.
4. Present in the unconscious mind but not consciously expressed.

## 🔍 Word Tutor



latent 🔊

**IN BRIEF:** Present but not yet active or visible.

🔊 *If you will call your troubles experiences, and remember that every experience develops some latent force within you, you will grow vigorous and happy, however adverse your circumstances may seem to be.*  
— James Russell Miller (1840-1912)

## 🔍 WordNet



*Note: click on a word meaning below to see its connections and related words.*

The *adjective* latent has 2 meanings:

Meaning #1: potentially existing but not presently evident or realized

Meaning #2: not presently active

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## Wikipedia



latent



It has been suggested that this article or section be merged into *Latency*. (Discuss)

**Latent** means that something is dormant and may become active in the future, as in a latent fault.

### 1. Information processing and communications

(including information technology and neural networks)

Latency refers to the inevitable delays inherent in computer systems, hardware devices such as integrated circuits, or networks.

### 2. Sexuality and psychology

Terms such as "latent homosexuality" mean a hidden inclination or potential for interest in the specified sexual interest or activity, which is either suppressed or not recognised, and which has not yet been explored "for real" or may never be explored in fact.

### 3. Forensics

A latent fingerprint is the identifiable impression made by a finger which is not immediately available (eg is on a difficult surface such as skin) but may be made available ("developed") by means of some appropriate technique.

### 4. Dendrology

A plant may have a 'latent bud'. This means that it only reproduces in favourable conditions, but it may remain in a bud state until such conditions appear.

### 5. Virology

The "quiet" or dormant stage of a virus. The virus just maintains its genome and does not do much else until favourable conditions for the lytic phase appear, in which the virus starts to replicate.



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## Translations



n. - empreinte digitale cachée

**idioms:**

- latent heat    chaleur latente
- latent period    période de latence

Deutsch (German)

adj. - latent

n. - latenter Fingerabdruck

**idioms:**

- latent heat    Umwandlungswärme
- latent period    (Med.) Inkubationszeit einer Infektionskrankheit

Ελληνική (Greek)

adj. - λανθάνων, αφανής, κρυμμένος, κρυφός

n. - δακτυλικό αποτύπωμα αόρατο στο γυμνό μάτι

**idioms:**

- latent heat    λανθάνουσα θερμότητα
- latent period    λανθάνων χρόνος

Italiano (Italian)

latente

**idioms:**

- latent heat    calore latente
- latent period    periodo di incubazione

Português (Portuguese)

adj. - latente, oculto

n. - latente (m)

**idioms:**

- latent heat    calor (m) latente (Fís.)
- latent period    período (m) latente

Русский (Russian)

скрытый, латентный

**idioms:**

- latent heat    скрытая теплота
- latent period    латентный период

Español (Spanish)

adj. - latente, oculto, disimulado

n. - tipo de huella digital que solo puede ser vista luego de ser procesada

**idioms:**

- latent heat    calor latente
- latent period    latencia, período latente

**Svenska (Swedish)**

adj. - latent, dold, förborgad, bunden

n., - n.

**中文 ( 简体 ) (Chinese (Simplified))**

潜伏性的, 隐藏的, 隐约的指印

**idioms:**

- latent heat    潜热
- latent period    潜伏期, 反应时间

**中文 ( 繁體 ) (Chinese (Traditional))**

adj. - 潜伏性的, 隐藏的

n. - 隱約的指印

**idioms:**

- latent heat    潛熱
- latent period    潛伏期, 反應時間

**한국어 (Korean)**

adj. - 잠재성의, 숨어 있는 , 휴지 상태의

n. - 잠복성

**日本語 (Japanese)**

adj. - 隠れている, 潜在的な, 潜伏性の

n. - 犯罪現場の指紋

**idioms:**

- latent heat    潛熱
- latent period    潛伏期間, 潛伏期, 潛期

**العربية (Arabic)**

(صفة) كامن , مستتر (الاسم) نوع من البصمات لا تظهر الا بعد , اجراء الفحوصات

**עברית (Hebrew)**

adj. - חבוי, טמיר, נסתר, שבפוטנציה, שבכוח

n. - סוג של טביעת-אצבעות היכול להיראות רק לאחר עיבוד

If you are unable to view some languages clearly, click [here](#).To select your translation preferences click [here](#).

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## passivate

### Dictionary

pas·si·vate (päs'p-vāt') 

v., -vat·ed, -vat·ing, -vates.

v. tr.

1. To treat or coat (a metal) in order to reduce the chemical reactivity of its surface.
2. To coat (a semiconductor, for example) with an oxide layer to protect against contamination and increase electrical stability.

passivation pas'si·va'tion *n.*passivator pas'si·va·tor *n.*

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## monolayer

### Dictionary

The American Heritage®  
dictionary

mon·o·lay·er (mŏn'ō-lā'ər) 

n.

1. A film or layer of a compound one molecule thick.
2. A layer of cells one cell thick, grown in a culture.

▼ Continued below...

### Medical

Houghton  
Mifflin  
Company

mon·o·lay·er (mŏn'ō-lā'ər)

n.

1. A film or layer one molecule thick formed at the interface between water and either oil or air by a substance such as a partially esterified fatty acid that contains both hydrophobic and hydrophilic groups in the same molecule.
2. A confluent sheet of cells, one cell deep, growing on a surface in a cell culture.

### Wikipedia





The **monolayer formation time** or **monolayer time** is the length of time required, on average, for a surface to be covered by an adsorbate, such as oxygen sticking to fresh aluminum. If the adsorbate has a unity sticking coefficient, so that every molecule which reaches the surface sticks to it without re-evaporating, then the monolayer time is very roughly:

$$t = 3 \times 10^{-4} / P$$

where  $t$  is in seconds and  $P$  is the pressure in pascals. It takes about 1 second for a surface to be covered at a pressure of 300  $\mu\text{Pa}$  ( $2 \times 10^{-6}$  Torr).

## Monolayer phases and equations of state

A Langmuir monolayer can be compressed or expanded by modifying its area with a moving barrier in a Langmuir film balance. If the surface tension of the interface is measured during the compression, a *compression isotherm* is obtained. This isotherm shows the variation of surface pressure ( $\Pi = \gamma^0 - \gamma$ , where  $\gamma$  is the surface tension of the interface before the monolayer is formed) with the area (the inverse of surface concentration  $\Gamma^{-1}$ ). It is analogous with a 3D process in which pressure varies with volume.

A variety of bidimensional phases can be detected, each separated by a phase transition. During the phase transition, the surface pressure doesn't change, but the area does, just like during normal phase transitions volume changes but pressure doesn't. The 2D phases, in increasing pressure order:

- Bidimensional gas: there are few molecules per area unit, and they have few interactions, therefore, analogous of the equations of state for 3D gases can be used: ideal gas law  $\Pi a_i = RT$ , where  $a_i$  is the area per molecule as the surface pressure increases, more complex equations are needed (Van der Waals, virial...)
- Expanded liquid
- Compressed liquid
- Solid

If the area is further reduced once the solid phase has been reached, collapse occurs, the monolayer breaks and soluble aggregates and multilayers are formed

Gibbs monolayers also follow equations of state, which can be deduced from Gibbs isotherm.

- For very dilute solutions  $\gamma = \gamma_0 - mC$ , through Gibbs isotherm another analogous of ideal gas law is reached  $\Pi = \Gamma RT$

- For more concentrated solutions and applying Langmuir isotherm  $\Gamma = \Gamma_{\max} \frac{C}{a + C}$ , thus
- $$\Pi = \Gamma_{\max} RT \left( 1 + \frac{C}{a} \right)$$

## Biology

Monolayers are frequently encountered in biology. A micelle is a monolayer, and the phospholipid lipid bilayer structure of biological membranes is technically two monolayers.

## Cell culture

In cell culture a monolayer refers to a layer of cells in which no cell is growing on top of another, but all are growing side by side and often touching each other on the same growth surface.

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[bilayer](#)

[Langmuir-Blodgett film](#) (physical chemistry)

[Kleinschmidt spread](#) (cell and molecular biology)

[Surface freezing](#)

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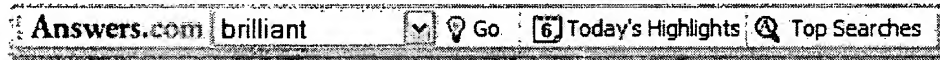
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## hydrophilic

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### Dictionary

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dictionary

hy·dro·phil·ic (hī'drō-fīl'ik) 

adj.

Having an affinity for water; readily absorbing or dissolving in water.

hydrophile hy'dro·phile' (-fīl') *n.*

hydrophilicity hy'dro·phi·lic'i·ty (-fō-līs'ī-tē) *n.*

### Marketing Terms

BARRON'S

hydrophilic

Property of paper or other material that attracts and absorbs moisture. *See also* [absorption](#).

### Medical

Houghton  
Mifflin  
Company

hy·dro·phil·ic (hī'drō-fīl'ik)

adj.

Having an affinity for water; readily absorbing or dissolving in water.

### WordNet



*Note: click on a word meaning below to see its connections and related words.*

The *adjective* hydrophilic has one meaning:

**Meaning #1:** (chemistry) having a strong affinity for water; tending to dissolve in, mix with, or be wetted by water

Antonym: [hydrophobic](#) (meaning #1)

### Misspellings

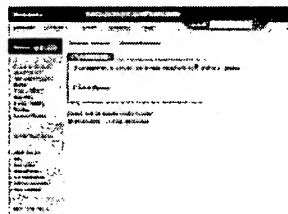
hydrophilic

Common misspelling(s) of hydrophilic

- hydrophilic

### 🔍 Best of the Web

Some good "hydrophilic" pages on the web:



Chemistry  
scienceworld.wolfram.com

### 🔍 Mentioned In

*hydrophilic* is mentioned in these AnswerPages:

<a href="#">Triad Hydrophilic Wound Dressing (Shopping)</a>	<a href="#">Hydrophilic Wound Dressings (Shopping)</a>
<a href="#">water-wettable (chemistry)</a>	<a href="#">algin</a>
<a href="#">amphipathic molecule (organic chemistry)</a>	<a href="#">N-terminal tail</a>
<a href="#">ammonium alginate (organic chemistry)</a>	<a href="#">potassium alginate (organic chemistry)</a>
<a href="#">securite explosive (materials)</a>	<a href="#">Hydrophilic-lipophilic balance</a>
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## amphiphilic

### Dictionary



am·phi·phil·ic (ăm'fī-fīl'ik)

adj.

Of or relating to a molecule having a polar, water-soluble group attached to a nonpolar, water-insoluble hydrocarbon chain.

▼ Continued below...

### ⓘ Mentioned In

*amphiphilic* is mentioned in these AnswerPages:

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